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ANNUAL ADDRESS OF PRES. HUME

Of the Florida State Horticultural Association, Delivered Last Night in the DeSoto County High School Building Before a House Full of Delegates and Visitors.

Members of the Florida Horticultural Society, Ladies and Gentlemen:

If we stop to contrast the condition of the old time farmer, who in the immortal words of Gray, single handed and alone, "the little tyrant of his fields withstood," with the condition of his present day successor, we cannot but be impressed with the many highly efficient forces which are making for the uplift of the work in which we are individually and collectively interested. Certainly, no longer single handed is it necessary to work out to a successful conclusion the intricate problems of crop production. It is of course true that in many directions our difficulties have increased both because of the great variety and because of the larger quantities of crops produced, but the advantages at our disposal in a large measure offset these increases. When help is desired, there are many sources from which it may be secured.

Let us now inquire what agencies, operating in our state, may be brought to the assistance of the horticulturist, and determine whether we are taking full advantage of them.

First among them is our experiment station. It took the experiment station of our state quite a number of years to measure up to the full sense of its opportunities and responsibilities. Into the causes for this condition we need not enter, but maybe the life of an institution is much the same as the life of an individual, in that there must be years of preparation, and years of development and much misdirected or waste effort before the age of productive activity is reached. Happily for our state and for those of us who are interested in its horticultural industries, the experiment station has developed a wonderful breadth of view; it is attacking our problems with precision; it is well directed, well manned and well equipped, and the best part of it is that over the whole state there has spread a feeling of confidence in the work which this institution is carrying on. More and more people are turning to it for the assistance they must have, and their needs are being met.

Now, the State Experiment Station and the Agricultural Department of our University are engaged in other lines of activity which are different from their direct lines of investigation and experimentation. The direction of forces which are working a revolution in our agriculture, rests with them. It does not need a prophet to foretell the uplift which is surely coming through the work of the county agents. This work is new, very new, and some time must pass before we can have accurate knowledge of the results, but a trained and active agent in every county in Florida will bring about a wonderful change in our rural conditions within the next decade. These men are doing more in one year to put tested knowledge into operation than all the tons of educational literature have done in the past twenty-five years. There has been nothing wrong in the main with the quality of this literature, but it is everlastingly true that we must learn how to do by doing. We have to be led to make an attempt by the demonstrated success of others.

In connection with this rural uplift work, one of the important contributing forces has been the Farmers' Institute work. This organization has carried the gospel of good farming and better living with signal success, and it has opened the way for a larger usefulness on the part of the Experiment Station.

The work to which reference has just been made is affecting the older farmer, the man more or less fixed in his way of doing things, the rut follower among us. And while we have emphasized the value of this effort, this is not the best part of this rural activity. The most important part is the reaching of boys and girls in the rural communities through the various clubs. This club work, whether it has to do with growing corn or raising pigs or growing and canning vegetables or fruits, is having a far-reaching effect in every section where it has been rightly organized. It is arousing that interest on the part of the boys and girls in the common, every day things of the farm boy, which every agricultural educator has hoped

ASSURANCES WILL BE MADE

Probably By the De Facto Government That Mexico Is Prepared to Take Care of the Situation and Successfully Cope With the Villa Bands in Northern Chihuahua. All of the 2,300 Troops Ordered to Columbus to Reinforce the Line of Communication Has Arrived.

El Paso, Texas, April 26.—Assurances that the de facto government of Mexico is prepared to cope with Villa bands in northern Chihuahua are expected to be made by General Alvaro Obregon at his coming conference here with Major General Scott and Brigadier General Funston.

General Obregon, it was learned in Mexican official circles here, will reveal his plans for policing the northern Mexican country in detail, with the hope that they will prove acceptable. Should the plans be deemed adequate by General Scott, who will report to Washington, the de facto government will again renew its request of the American government that its troops be withdrawn.

Andres Garcia, Mexican consul, expected to obtain official information as to what time General Obregon will reach Juarez. It is believed here that nearly a week will be required to make the journey because of the defective condition of the Mexican railroads.

That several weeks at least will elapse before the troops are withdrawn appears evident from the amount of food and forage sent south from the Columbus base. Supplies sufficient to last from thirty to thirty-five days are at the front. General Pershing also has received sufficient clothing and shoes to completely re-equip his men.

All of the 2,300 troops ordered to Columbus to reinforce the line of communications have arrived.

With the American expeditionary force practically concentrated at two isolated points, near Naniquipa and at Colonia Dablan, where it is marking time pending the diplomatic exchanges between Washington and General Carranza, the pursuit of Villa has ceased to be a main factor.

El Paso has already been the scene of several Mexican-American conferences, notably those of former President Taft and Porfirio Diaz, General Obregon and General Pershing, and General Scott with Francisco Villa. Men versed in Mexican affairs believe that the coming meeting will be of far more importance than any that have preceded it.

It is only seven months ago that General Scott came to this city to meet Villa, now a fugitive bandit, then the possible "coming man" of Mexico. In Obregon he will meet a very different type of man, according to those here who know Carranza's minister of war. Obregon is described as one of the ablest men in Mexico. He is said to be an accomplished diplomatist, with a real grasp of international affairs. His reputation as a soldier is high, and he is credited by his friends, among whom are many Americans, with being every influential in the affairs of the de facto government.

It is not expected here that the conference can take place before a week at least. In normal times it took more than three days to make the trip from Mexico City to Juarez, and no such time can be made under existing conditions. The Mexican Central Railroad, which runs direct from the capital to Juarez, has been completely wrecked between Aguas Calientes and Torreon, where the Central road can again be used. This means a trip of anywhere from five to eight days.

THE POLYANNA CLUB.

The Polyantha Club met at the home of Miss Jessie Henchon Saturday afternoon, April 22nd. After a very pleasant hour had been spent the charming hostess served apple pie with ice cream.

Those present were: Misses Charlotte Seward, Marjorie Clay, Oda Belle Appleby, Susie Stonebraker, Elizabeth Jones, Clara Blake, Birdie Scott and Marie Langford. The club will meet at the home of Miss Gertrude Davis Saturday, April 29th.

Among the members of the Horticultural Society registered at the DeSoto Hotel is Mr. and Mrs. R. D. Hoyt, of Clearwater, who own a large orange grove near that city.

T. B. Snook, of Weirland, Fla., arrived in this city last night to attend the annual meeting of the Florida State Horticultural Association, which is in session in this city this week.

The County registration books will close Monday, May 1st. There are yet quite a number of voters who have not registered. Be sure that you do not lose your vote by failure to register.

THE TWENTY-NINTH ANNUAL SESSION OF THE FLA. STATE HORTICULTURAL HAS A MOST AUSPICIOUS OPENING

The Large Auditorium Was Well Filled When the Gavel of President Hume Fell and Announced That the Body Was Ready for Business. A Large Number of Delegates Are Present, Representing Practically Every Part of the State.

MANY CITIES WANT THE MEET IN-1917

West Palm Beach, Fort Myers and Jacksonville Seem to Be the Cities That Will Not Give Up Until the Votes Have Been Counted. Tomorrow Afternoon the Delegates Will Be Taken Out to See Many of the Best Groves in the Immediate Vicinity.

The 29th session of the Florida State Horticultural Society is in session here, and held its opening session last night in the auditorium of the DeSoto County High School building.

The large auditorium, which will seat 800, was comfortably filled when President Harold Hume, of Glen St. Mary, called the body to order.

The opening session included the singing of America by the audience; prayer, led by the Rev. F. A. Shore, rector of the Episcopal church of Arcadia; address of welcome in behalf of the city, by Judge A. F. Odlin; response for the society, by Mr. L. B. Skinner, first vice-president, of Dunedin, Fla.; address of welcome by Hon. C. H. Mitchell, on behalf of the Arcadia Commercial Club; response for the society, by Hon. D. C. Gillett, of Tampa; the President's Annual Address.

Mrs. Marian McAdow then made a short talk in regard to the value of a Query Box, and asked the delegates and others to make free use of it during the convention session.

The above program was interspersed with some delightful music, which included a cornet solo by Mrs. R. E. Herndon, and a vocal solo by Miss Ella M. Polk, Miss Evelyn Odlin presiding at the piano.

This morning's program was one of great interest to fruit growers, and many excellent topics were discussed. Our reporter did not hear the paper read by B. P. Floyd, of Gainesville, on the "Methods of Handling Citrus Groves," but heard some of the discussions on the paper. Among those who discussed this topic were: Colonel Shepard, of Winter Park; Mr. L. D. Niles, Lander Park; Mr. H. E. Cornell, Winter Haven; Mr. Brown, of Bradenton, and others whose names we could not obtain.

The topic of "Irrigation in Florida" was ably discussed by Mr. F. W. Stanley, Washington, D. C. Mr. Stanley was provided with a chart that showed the annual rainfall in the Orlando section since 1891. The chart was unique in its arrangement, and very forcibly impressed many interesting facts upon the hearers. Various methods of irrigation were also discussed, and the value of each. Mr. Stanley mentioned the fact that part of a grove at Maitland which had been irrigated during this spring

EASTER TEA.

The Easter tea that was given Easter Monday at the rectory by the Ladies' Guild of St. Edmund's Episcopal church, was a decided success, socially and financially. During the afternoon, tea and wafers were served to all the guests. Mrs. Markett and Mrs. Clay presided at the tea table. They were helped in serving by Miss Odlin, Mrs. Alderman, Miss Morgan. While the visitors were being served they were delightfully entertained by Mrs. Herndon with cornet solos, accompanied by Miss Odlin. Punch was served by Dorothy King and Cleave Shore.

The ladies had very dainty articles for sale, consisting of handkerchiefs, aprons of all kinds, caps and towels. These found ready sale, and at the close of the day it was found that over one hundred dollars had been realized, which will be added to the new building fund, and which has now well passed the thousand dollar mark.

At 6 p. m. the male members of the parish had been invited to join the ladies at supper, and most of them availed themselves of the invitation. Many good things were spread before them, and they enjoyed this part of the day very much. After the supper was over, sociability was the order of the day. Mrs. Grant Lee entertained those present with some delightful humorous recitation, which were greatly enjoyed.

The ladies of the Guild wish to thank their many friends for their generous patronage at the sale. They appreciate the friends who assist them in these sales by their presence and patronage.

Col. W. B. Crawford, a leading attorney of Kissimmee, was attending to legal matters in this city yesterday. Colonel Crawford was on his way home from Fort Myers, where he went to look after business for the Consolidated Title Company, of which he is secretary and treasurer.

GERMAN BATTLE CRUISERS

Appear Off Lowestoft Yesterday, But Are Met By Local Naval Forces and Driven Away Within a Brief Twenty Minute Period. The German War Ships Opened Fire on the Coast Before They Retreated, Killing Two Men, One Woman and a Child.

London, April 26.—German battle cruisers appeared off Lowestoft yesterday.

Local naval forces engaged the raiders, and also British light cruisers. The German war ships retreated in twenty minutes.

The German war ships opened fire on the coast before departing. Two men, one woman and a child were killed. The material damage apparently was small.

In the engagement two British light cruisers and a destroyer were hit, but none of them was sunk.

Announcement of the appearance of the German war ships was made in an official statement. The following official announcement was made:

"At about 4:30 o'clock yesterday morning a German cruiser squadron, accompanied by light cruisers and destroyers, appeared off Lowestoft. The local naval forces engaged it, and in about twenty minutes it returned to Germany, chased by our light cruisers and destroyers.

"On shore two men, one woman and a child were killed. The material damage seems to have been insignificant, so far as is known at present. Two British light cruisers and a destroyer were hit, but none was sunk."

LADIES' AID SOCIETY OF THE METHODIST CHURCH.

A very enjoyable meeting of the Ladies' Aid Society of the Methodist church was held yesterday afternoon at the home of Mrs. W. G. Welles, on West Oak street. The first part of the afternoon was spent socially, after which a business meeting was called to order by the president, Mrs. W. G. Welles. On account of the large amount of work being done by the members, sewing fancy work, etc., to raise money to provide the new Methodist church with a pipe organ, it was decided that the society should meet every week, instead of twice a month as has been the custom heretofore. The meeting day was also changed. The society will now meet every Friday afternoon. After numerous other business had been attended to, the best served refreshments of fruit punch and sandwiches, baked apples with whipped cream and coffee to her guests, who then departed for their various homes to meet next on Friday the 5th at the home of Mrs. D. G. Barnott. Those who were present were: Mesdames John H. Treadwell, W. E. Leitner, E. J. Weaver, E. B. Sampey, M. L. Williams, L. C. Edmonds, Tom Kards, J. A. Parker, M. M. Archard, Lloyd Davis, J. S. Wells, J. C. Kemp, A. N. Salley, H. E. Carlton, W. L. Scott, Barney Hollingsworth, P. E. Forrester, Kilpatrick, S. S. Ferrell, Appleby, Giles, John Brady, W. G. Ford, Sessions, F. S. Pate, John L. Jones, Misses Vera Parker, Bookie Campbell, Hazel King and Eva Ford.

MISS TAYLOR GIVES
ENJOYABLE EGG HUNT.

Miss Annie Laura Taylor was the charming young hostess to the Sew Sew Club at an egg hunt Saturday afternoon at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Rupert Smith. The whole afternoon was spent in hunting Easter eggs and playing many children's games. After the little guests had tired themselves out, refreshments consisting of punch and wafers were served. Those attending this happy affair were: Misses Annie Laura Taylor, Mary Elizabeth Treadwell, Brownie Brown, Lois and Louise Hickman, Dorothy King, Edith King, Thaddeus Sampey, Annie Griffiths, Mildred Pearson, Bessie Moffitts, Josephine Ford, Josephine Dancy, Emily Posser, Messrs. Marshall Brantly, Rupert and George Smith.

W. Blair Clark, of Washington, D. C., arrived in this city last night to attend the meeting of the Florida Horticultural Association. Mr. Clark, who is a member of the United States Department of Agriculture, will deliver an address this afternoon at the school building on the subject of Irish Potato Diseases. While here Mr. Clark is stopping at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Joe W. Vesey.

S. F. Ron, owner of a large orange grove located near Lowell, Fla., is in attendance upon the Florida State Horticultural Society meeting at the school building.

D. C. GILLET RESPONDS

To Address of Welcome in Behalf of the Florida State Horticultural Society in a Happy and Attractive Vein. He Congratulates Himself in Being a "Florida Cracker, Country Born and Town Reared, But Corn Fed."

The Hon. D. C. Gillett, of Tampa, who responded to the address of welcome in behalf of the Florida Agricultural Society in session here, was warned by the chairman that he would have to "go some" to measure up to the standard set by Judge Odlin and Mr. Mitchell in their welcome addresses. Mr. Gillett said he recognized the "bigness" of the task before him, and had therefore come prepared. His address proved him to be thoroughly equal to the occasion, and we sincerely regret that our space will not permit us to publish the excellent address in full. The following excerpts are taken from the address:

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen: Last year when the Horticultural Society decided in Tampa that this year's convention should be held at Arcadia, your loyal friends and supporters made very broad claims for your city and surrounding country. In fact, so extravagant were they in the use of adjectives setting forth the beauties of Arcadia that I am sure there was aroused in the minds of every man, myself included, a desire to visit Arcadia and partake of that hospitality for which you are famous.

We were told of your agricultural and horticultural resources, your phosphate and grazing lands, your schools and churches, your business institutions and citizenship, and last but not least, your beautiful women. Since my arrival and casual observation of the surroundings, I do not hesitate to say to you it is my opinion that the story was not half told. The picture was not painted in its brightest colors, and I am glad we are here mingling with Florida's most progressive citizens.

On behalf of the Florida State Horticultural Society, I thank the gentleman who has preceded me for his cordial welcome, and I am sure that we shall enjoy our visit to the fullest extent and go home with warm spots in our hearts for every Arcadian.

Arcadia has been called a Cracker Town. This, my friends, is a distinction of which you should be proud, and I am proud with you, for I am a Florida cracker myself, country born, town reared and corn fed.

Within the last few years there is no part of Florida that has shown more real development along agricultural and horticultural lines than DeSoto county. It is rich in natural resources. You have your naval stores and timber. You have your phosphate and grazing lands. You have a vast acreage that is excellently adapted to the raising of citrus fruits and early vegetables. You have ample capital and above all, you have men of ability and faith. I therefore say it is very proper that the Florida State Horticultural Society should convene in Arcadia and exchange ideas of mutual advantage.

I believe in co-operation because I think the combined strength, advice and counsel of a thousand men is better than my own. I am willing to contribute my small mite to the success and upbuilding of any organization which will tend to elevate and place on a higher plane the business from which I make my living. Has it ever occurred to you how much more efficient this society could be to its members, or the Florida Citrus Exchange, or the Florida Growers' and Shippers' League if every one of the 11,000 citrus growers of this state were actively working for its advancement and welfare? There has never been a time in the history of Florida when co-operation was as necessary in solving our present day problems. It is my sincere hope that out of this meeting at Arcadia may come a clearer understanding and a better feeling between all members and a full realization of the necessity for team work in handling the great problems which confront us in the conduct of our affairs.

If the native and adopted sons of Florida are going to place her in the front rank of civilization, if they are going to keep her pace with the times, co-operation from every source must be had, for then, and only then, will Florida's dream be realized.

I thank you."

(Continued on Last Page.)